

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT Soviet Training in the Crawinkel-Ohrdruf Area

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

Soviet units which earlier limited themselves to the wooded area around Crawinkel (114) have now extended their training to the area Oberhof - Crawinkel-Ohrdruf-Georgental (112-14-15-05). served the training of German police by Soviet officers: about 250 policemen were involved, ranging in rank from Polizeimeister up. The following movements were seen:

31 August - Five T-34/85 and three armored reconnaissance cars, the latter towing three 57 mm AT guns (M43).

2 September - Towards Ohrdruf: nineteen Studebakers and one jeep in the B 2-73 series; nine heavy 120 mm mortars (M38), truck drawn; and 400 soldiers. Entering the Crawinkel area: 200 men, six 122 mm howitzers (M38), and

2 September - Bridging equipment, including five pontoons, was unloaded at the Crawinkel Bahnhof. One car bore a ticket reading "From Dresden-Friederichstadt Hafen". A railroad worker said that other engineer material had been unloaded recently.

visited the Wegscheide area, which lies five kilometers southwest of Frankenhausen (114). Signs have recently been posted reading, "Na Loreiravu", (sic) pointing to a heavily traveled

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Forest road running south to the small stream called Mutsche. Three armored half tracks and two light reconnaissance cars left a woods camp located 300 meters northeast of Hagscheide while a "motorized pontoon" arrived from the direction of Oberhof. This latter vehicle holds at least forty persons; a rear screw provides for propulsion in water; when seen on land, it was proceeding at 35-40 kilometers per hour.

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4. Approximately 800 troops were seen training around Hagscheide. This unit, [redacted] previously had been seen at Crawinkel but after training went to Ohrdruf. Among weapons were twelve 76.2 mm AT guns (M42) and eight 82 mm mortars (M41), the latter hauled on trucks. The column contained six light reconnaissance cars and eight armored half tracks, the latter each mounting two MGs. Support included older model SIS trucks and six field kitchens.

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